

## REPORT

OF

## NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 28th March 1885.

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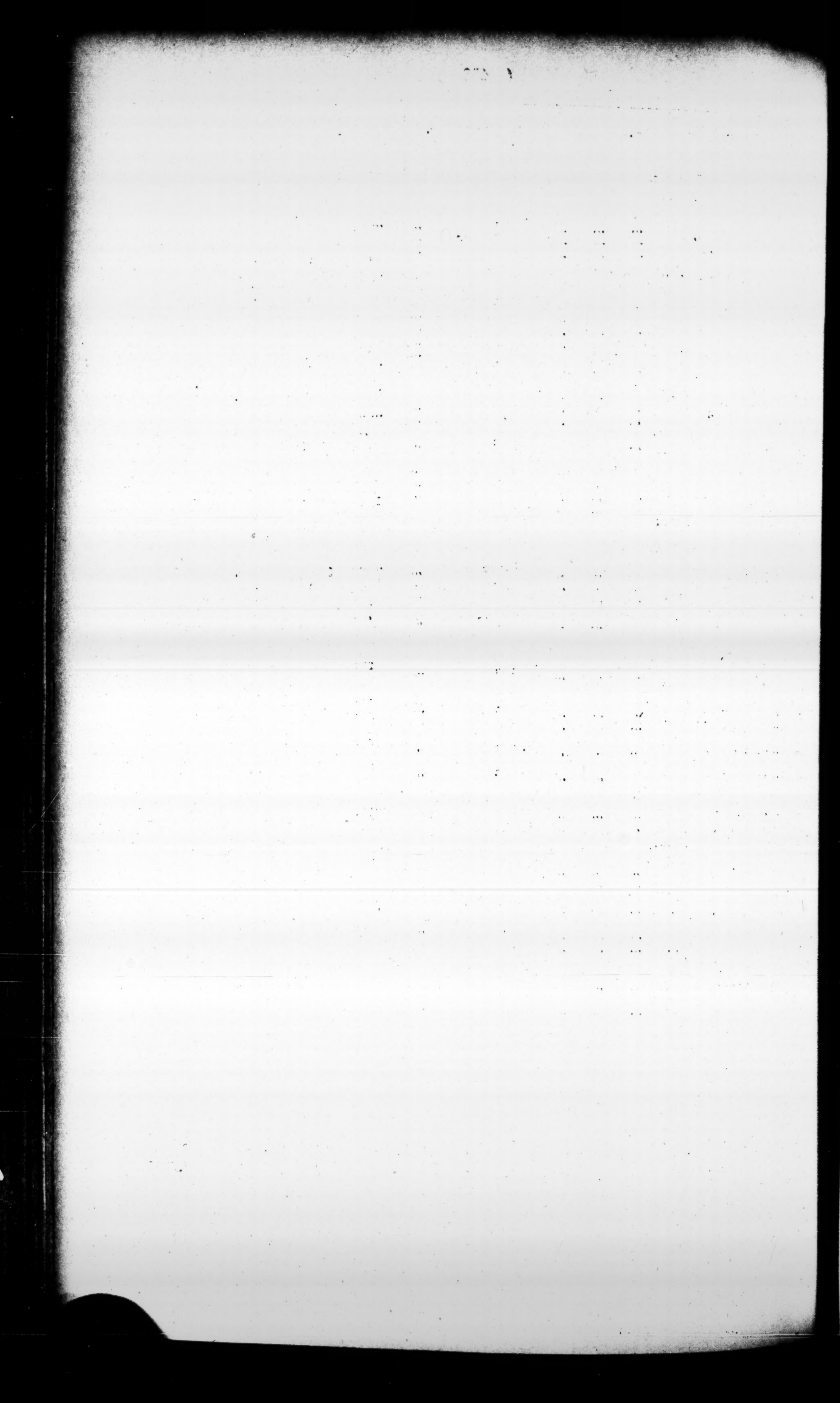
## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini" ... ..	Chittagong ...	700	19th March 1895.
2	"Purva Darpan" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
3	"Tripurá Vartávaha" ... ..	Comillah ...	.....	
4	"Prem Pracharini" ... ..	Nawabgunge, Barrack- pore.	.....	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
5	"Alok" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká" ... ..	Ditto ...	700	23rd ditto.
7	"Arya Darpan" ... ..	Ditto ...	102	20th ditto.
8	"Bangabási" ... ..	Ditto ...	12,000	28th ditto.
9	"Bartábaha" ... ..	Pubna ...	.....	
10	"Bharat Hitaishi" ... ..	Burrisal ...	450	
11	"Bharat Mihir" ... ..	Mymensingh ...	625	
12	"Bardwán Sanjivani" ... ..	Burdwan ...	296	24th ditto.
13	"Bikrampore Patriká" ... ..	Dacca ...	756	
14	"Cháruvartá" ... ..	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	
15	"Dacca Prakash" ... ..	Dacca ...	425	22nd ditto.
16	"Education Gazette" ... ..	Hooghly ...	800	20th ditto.
17	"Gramvartá Prakashiká" ... ..	Comercolly ...	500	21st ditto.
18	"Halisahar Prakashiká" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	
19	"Hindu Ranjika" ... ..	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	18th ditto.
20	"Játiya Suhrid" ... ..	Calcutta ...	700	
21	"Medini" ... ..	Midnapore ...	500	
22	"Mussulman Handhu" ... ..	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	.....	23rd ditto.
23	"Murshidabad Patriká" ... ..	Bernampore ...	437	
24	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
25	"Navavibhakar" ... ..	Calcutta ...	850	23rd ditto.
26	"Paridarshak" ... ..	Sylhet ...	440	



No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<b>BENGALI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
27	"Patākā" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	20th March 1885.
28	"Prajā Bandhu" ... ..	Chandernagore ...	900	20th ditto.
29	"Prāntavāsī" ... ..	Chittagong ...	600	
30	"Pratikār" ... ..	Berhampore ...	600	20th ditto.
31	"Rajshahye Samvād" ... ..	Beauleah ...	.....	
32	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh" ... ..	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	220	19th ditto.
33	"Sādhārānī" ... ..	Calcutta ...	500	22nd ditto.
34	"Sahachar" ... ..	Ditto ...	500	18th ditto.
35	"Samaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	1,500	23rd ditto.
36	"Sanjivani" ... ..	Ditto ...	4,000	21st ditto.
37	"Saraswat Patra" ... ..	Dacca ...	345	
38	"Shakti" ... ..	Calcutta ...	.....	
39	"Som Prakāsh" ... ..	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	1,000	23rd ditto.
40	"Sulabha Samāchār" ... ..	Calcutta ...	3,000	14th & 21st March 1885.
41	"Surabhi" ... ..	Ditto ...	700	24th March 1885.
42	"Udbodhan" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
<i>Daily.</i>				
43	"Dainik Vartā" ... ..	Calcutta ...	450	
44	"Samvād Prabhākar" ... ..	Ditto ...	225	21st to 25th March 1885.
45	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya" ... ..	Ditto ...	300	20th to 27th ditto.
46	"Samachār Chandrikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	625	19th to 26th ditto.
47	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	520	21st, 24th, 26th and 27th March 1885.
48	"Prabhātī" ... ..	Ditto ...	1,000	21st to 27th March 1885.
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
49	"Behar Bandhu" ... ..	Bankipore ...	.....	19th March 1885.
50	"Bhārat Mitra" ... ..	Calcutta ...	1,500	16th ditto.
51	"Sār Sudhānidhi" ... ..	Ditto ...	500	21st ditto.
52	"Uchit Baktā" ... ..	Ditto ...	300	
53	"Hindi Samāchār" ... ..	Bhagulpore ...	700	
<b>PERSIAN.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Jām-Jahān-numā" ... ..	Calcutta ...	250	
<b>URDU.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
55	"Gauhur" ... ..	Calcutta ...	100	
56	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar" ... ..	Behar ...	250	
<i>Daily.</i>				
57	"Urdu Guide" ... ..	Calcutta ...	365	21st, 23rd & 25th March 1885.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
58	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ... ..	Calcutta ...	340	
<b>ASSAMESE.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Assam Vilāsini" ... ..	Sibsagar ...	.....	
60	"Assam News" ... ..	Ditto ...	450	
<b>URIYA.</b>				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
61	"Utkal Dīpikā" ... ..	Cuttack ...	250	7th March 1885.
62	"Utkal Darpan" ... ..	Balasore ...	200	10th ditto.
63	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā" ... ..	Ditto ...	116	5th ditto.
64	"Sebaka" ... ..	Cuttack ...	200	11th ditto.
<i>Monthly.</i>				
65	"Taraka" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
66	"Shikṣābandhu" ... ..	Ditto ...	.....	
<b>HINDI.</b>				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
67	"Kshatriya Patrikā" ... ..	Patna ...	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
68	"Chumparun Hitakari" ... ..	Bettia ...	.....	







## POLITICAL.

THE *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 16th March, says that the number of troops of the Native Princes amounts altogether to about

SAR SUDHAN IDHI,  
March 16th, 1885.

The troops of the native princes.

three lakhs of soldiers for keeping these troops down. But Government can be greatly benefited by the troops of the Native Princes if it makes some good arrangements. Government should appoint English Commanders to command and train up these troops. If this is done, there will be no fear of their rising against Government. These troops should also be furnished with the newly invented arms. If this is done, Government will be in a position to reduce the military expenditure by reducing its own army. If these arrangements are made, Government will be greatly benefited at this time of danger and will be able to send these three lakhs of troops to Afghanistan.

2. The same paper says that many persons think that England is now in great danger, as France, Germany, and

SAR SUDHANIDHI.

The difficulties of England.

Russia are now hostile to her, but the writer does not think so. The strength of England remains unimpaired. If the above powers show hostility towards England, Italy and Turkey, and, perhaps, America will help England. As England has great wealth, India also has a vast number of men. England will also be helped by the Colonies. If this combined strength is taken into consideration the fear of Russian success will appear groundless. England will do well to remove the fear about Russian invasion of India which has long been felt by entering upon a war with Russia. If that is done, Russia will be disabled for about 50 years. During that time India may become strong owing to self-government.

3. The *Sahachar*, of the 18th March, says that the English Government and the English nation will be steeped

SAHACHAR,  
March 18th, 1885.

The Soudan War.

in a great sin if efforts are made to extend British dominion into Egypt or the Soudan. Even the wrong that has been already committed cannot be repaired. That wrong has not been atoned for by the death of Earle, Stewart, and Burnaby, nor by the death of General Gordon. That sin will be partially atoned for when the English retire from Egypt and the Soudan. The English should retire from those countries after establishing peace in them. If England becomes guilty of greater sin owing to efforts to crush the Mahdi and Osman Digma, the whole world will be uneasy. Such a step will not increase the glory of England.

4. The same paper says that the question is whether England has acted wisely in expressing her determination to defend Afghanistan. The question must

SAHACHAR.

England and Russia.

be answered in the negative or the affirmative according as the Amir and the people of Afghanistan are disinclined to accept that help, or the contrary. England is going to defend Afghanistan owing to self interests. English statesmen of all parties agree in thinking that an independent and powerful country should be kept between the Russian Empire and India. But is Afghanistan such a country? Can a country which has two such powerful neighbours remain independent without being strong in herself? Afghanistan must lean either towards Russia or towards England. The policy of the English Government should be to make Afghans feel that Russia is their enemy. But the means that are being adopted to effect this will produce the opposite result. Afghans hate the English more than they hate Russians, because the English have twice unnecessarily entered into a war with Afghanistan. The imprisonment of Yakub Khan, and the setting up of Abdur Rahman on the throne, have increased their displeasure. The Afghans call the present Amir the vassal of the English. Whatever the Amir may



write in letters, he shows to his subjects that he cares nothing for the British Government. Indeed, if he shows the contrary, it will be impossible for him to reign long. How will the English Government defend Afghanistan if it cannot exercise authority over the Amir? But the English Government should know it for certain that no Amir of Afghanistan will consent to be a vassal of the English Government. So far as the writer understands Russia will by no means fight with England now, but will probably lower her head. Abdur Rahman's power is not secure. The people of Herat are in favour of Yakub Khan. What will the English Government do if, when Abdul Rahman is in Rawul Pindie, the Afghans proclaim the son of Yakub Khan as the Amir, and if Musa Jan cedes Herat to Russia as the price of her help. The other European powers will not interpose if the gate of India should thus fall in the hands of Russia. What is the use of courting such disgraces? Let England improve the material and the political condition of India, and she need not fear any foreign enemy.

HINDU RANJIKA,  
March 18th, 1885.

5. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 18th March, says that England can, with the help of India and the Colonies, conquer the whole world with ease. Indian troops alone will suffice to defend India, and so England has nothing to fear from Russia, even though English troops may be engaged in war elsewhere.

SANSODHINI,  
March 19th, 1885.

6. The *Sansodhini*, of the 19th March, says that it is better to fight with Russia on the borders of Afghanistan than on the borders of India. If Russians are allowed to establish themselves in Afghanistan, India will be in great danger. Many are of opinion that the English have nothing to fear if Russians settle in the Afghan country. But, says the writer, for Russia to cross Afghanistan would be tantamount to an invasion of India. The writer is desirous of peace, and would be glad if some great men were appointed arbiters in the quarrel between Russia and England.

ARYA DARPAN,  
March 20th, 1885.

7. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 20th March, is surprised and alarmed to hear that Sir Peter Lumsden gets a pay of Rs. 21,665, per month in excess of that of the Viceroy, and that the Commission costs Rs. 12,00,000 a month while it is doing nothing. It is rumoured that India will be saddled with the cost of the Commission.

ARYA DARPAN.

8. The same paper says that if England wants to keep Russia off, it should make the Afghans its friends, so that they might inform it of the aggressive movements of the Russians. But if Afghans are not friendly, they will be open to Russian intrigue and England will be put to great difficulty.

PRATIKAR,  
March 20th, 1885.

9. The *Pratikár*, of the 20th March, says that the English should give up the Soudan War. The English can gain nothing by this war which will compensate for the loss of General Gordon, General Stewart, and General Brackenbury. It is not advisable for England at the present moment, when she has other serious things pressing on her attention, to engage in this affair.

PRATIKAR.

10. The same paper says that it will be well for India if there be no war with Russia, for India is in no position to meet the cost of that terrible war. Already the cost of the Boundary Commission is exorbitant. It costs 12 lakhs a month. Sir Peter Lumsden gets a pay of Rs. 42,000 per month which is much in excess of the pay of the Viceroy. The writer does not understand what necessity there was for sending an officer more highly paid than the Viceroy

The probable war with Russia.



for this work. The cost of the Rawul Pindie conference, too, will fall on India, and these expenses are quite enough to ruin her.

11. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st March, says that the Government of India has done well in declaring that it will not interfere in the affairs of Independent

Burmah and India.

Burmah. This shows that Lord Dufferin has not listened to the cry raised by some English merchants for making war on Burmah.

12. The *Sulabh Samachar*, of the 21st March, says that the Amir will

The interview with the Amir of Cabul.

come to India on the 26th of March; that the Viceroy and other high officers will be present at the interview with him; that 20,000 troops will be present, and that a grand review will take place. The object of all this display seems to be to impress the Amir with a sense of the greatness of the power of the English. Many apprehend that Russia will create disturbance in the absence of the Amir, and that the troops collected for review will have to go to war. The writer has great confidence in the sagacity of the English. He is aware that Russia is no match for England.

13. The *Grumvarta Prakashika*, of the 21st March, says that England rules India. The people of India can bear every wrong, but they cannot bear that their

Russia and England.

rulers should be insulted. Russia advances towards India, disregarding all remonstrances received from England. The writer wonders that war has not been declared long before this. The natives are a peace-loving race, but they cannot put up with such insults. Russia is insulting England at every step. She should not be allowed to advance any further. Many are of opinion that all difficulties may be overcome by making Herat over to Russia. But the writer cannot approve of this idea; because that would be giving undue indulgence to a haughty enemy. India does not stand in need of fighting men. The native princes will fight by the side of their sovereign. If natives are admitted into the army, they will make better soldiers than the Eurasians.

14. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 21st March, says that some Anglo-Indians are spreading the rumour that the Maharajah of Cashmere is intriguing with Russia.

The Maharajah of Cashmere.

Government knows the friendliness and strength of the Maharajah of Cashmere. It is not wise to allow Anglo-Indians to displease by false accusations such persons as the Maharajah at this time of danger. Government should speedily stop the mouths of these men.

15. The *Sadharani*, of the 22nd March, says that the English have indeed become very prosperous, but the occupation of India has made them very

The English Government.

fond of luxury. They are now afraid of contemptible enemies. It is natural that this fear will encourage those enemies. The English do not seem to understand that Indians are very loyal. It is true that Indians cannot do any injury to the British Government if they rise against it. But the English Government may be benefited if it attaches Indians to itself. Whatever Indians may say at times in the bitterness of their heart, they are very happy under British rule. Indians will be very sorry if the English have to go away from India. Many nations are now endeavouring to occupy India. The English Government should now be cautious, shake off luxurious habits and trust Indians. If the 250 millions of Indians are satisfied, no one will be able to dispossess the English of India. Upon seeing the English entangled in difficulties in the Soudan, Russians are trying to invade India. Let the English trust Indians and nobody will venture to invade India. The establishment of a Defence Association for keeping down weak Indians will not do. The powerful enemy at the gate should be taken notice of.

SANJIVANI,  
March 21st, 1885.

SULABH SAMACHAR,  
March 21st, 1885.

GRUMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA,  
March 21st, 1885.

UCHIT VAKTA,  
March 21st, 1885.

SADHARANI,  
March 22nd, 1885.



SADHARANI,  
March 22nd, 1885.

16. The same paper says that Russia is advancing so slowly that, even if she occupies Herat and Cabul, she will take at least fifty years more in reaching India. During these 50 years the English Government will be able to introduce a better system of government in India and to conciliate all classes of Indians. If that is done the entrance of Russians into India will plainly appear improbable.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
March 22nd, 1885

17. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 22nd March, is glad to notice that Lord Dufferin has discountenanced the attempt made by the English merchants in Rangoon to embroil the Government of India in a war with Burmah with a view to its annexation to the British territories.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.  
March 23rd, 1885.

18. According to the *Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 23rd March, Mahomedans are fond of peace, and the Editor is therefore glad to notice the announcement made by Lord Granville that both the Russians and English will withdraw from the debateable territory. It therefore appears probable that the earth will not be deluged with human blood.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU.

19. The same paper advises the British Government to maintain their present position in the Soudan, to defend the territories already in their possession, and not to declare war against the Mahdi, because the English have now to look after many things.

PATAKA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

20. The *Patáka*, of the 23rd March, says that, whatever Russia may profess, her acts show that she does not deserve to be trusted. She has by force and fraud occupied the vast tract of Central Asia. It is now clear that the main object of Russia is to occupy India. If she attains her object, the sufferings of Indians will know no bounds. Even the occupation of Herat by her is not at all desirable for the English Government and Indians. For if she occupies Herat the English Government will have to spend much money in order to station troops at a proper place. Thus poor India will have to bear fresh burdens. Lord Napier of Magdala said this in 1878. Another experienced man, Sir Henry Rawlinson, has said that India will have to suffer much inconvenience if Russia occupies Herat. It will be well nigh impossible to recover Herat if it is once occupied by Russia. It being so, efforts should be made for its defence beforehand. It is deeply to be regretted that it has become necessary to send troops to the Soudan at this time. Though England is very powerful, she will have to adopt great caution, and to keep a large number of troops ready in her quarrel with Russia. Had the English Government trusted Indians and given them a military training, there would have been to-day a million of Indian warriors prepared to fight for the defence of India. The writer has often said this, and will continue to say this so long as that necessary and beneficial measure is not introduced. Government has been greatly benefited by the armies of the native princes on many occasions; but in return for these services the British Government has, owing to distrust, reduced them to such a state that they are now worthless. The arms of these troops are contemptible. Had they been well trained, England need not have feared any enemy.

SOM PRAKASH,  
March 23rd, 1885.

21. The *Som Prakash*, of the 23rd March, says that every one must be glad to learn that the noble-hearted Lord Ripon has requested the British Government to save Holkar from the oppressions of the Foreign Office. The writer hopes that the British Government will show its respect for, and increase the glory of, the English nation by complying with Lord Ripon's just request.



22. The same paper says that the Nizam and, following his example, other Indian princes have expressed their desire to join the Rawul Pindee Durbar. Every

SOM PRAKASH,  
March 23rd, 1885.

The native princes.

Indian should help the English Government at this time. Russia will surely be frightened upon seeing this loyalty of the Indian princes and the Indian people.

23. The same paper says that the evil consequences of Lord Dal-

SOM PRAKASH.

England, Afghanistan, and Russia.

housie's ill-advised action in depriving Duleep Singh of his paternal kingdom owing to greediness are gradually being felt. Owing to that the English Government is being entangled in one difficulty after another. Had a warlike and friendly nation like the Sikhs been stationed to-day on the North-Western frontier of India, the uneasiness of the English would have been considerably less. The Afghans are so hostile to the English that the Amir himself could not permit the Boundary Commission to pass through the proposed parts of Afghanistan. Who can again be certain that the Amir is the sincere friend of the English? Can the Amir forget that Russia gave him shelter when he was wandering as a poor man? He also clearly sees that the English Government can set up the imprisoned Ayub (?) Khan on the throne if displeased with him. He is also aware that the English have placed him on the throne owing to necessity. Consequently, he has no very great reason to be grateful to the English Government. The Amir is partial to the English only owing to the promised annual subsidy of 12 lakhs. The English Cabinet intends to station British troops in Herat to watch the movements of Russia; but it is well nigh impossible to do so. It is not to be expected that the freedom-loving Afghans will suffer infidel foreigners to be stationed in their country. The Afghans are again very much hostile to Englishmen. It is not probable that the Amir, who could not permit the Boundary Commission to pass through his kingdom, will permit the British troops to be stationed in Herat. What again will be gained even if he permits it? The Afghans will surely try to drive out the English. This will lead to a war between the two nations. So this step, far from promoting friendship, will increase hostility, and Russia's object will be attained. The writer entreats the Cabinet to abandon such a ruinous policy. There is no need of further wasting the money of poor India. Sir Peter Lumsden and his attendants should be ordered to withdraw from Afghanistan. It is true that the Russian Government has told the British Government that Russian troops will not advance further. But who can say that a rupture of good feelings may not occur between England and Russia in connection with the settlement of the boundary? What is the use of engaging in unnecessary hostility? The recall of Sir Peter Lumsden may lower English prestige a little, but this will be attended with many advantages.

24. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 23rd March, says that the negotiations of the Gladstone Ministry with the

NAVAVIBHAKAR,  
March 23rd, 1885.

Russia and England.

Russian Government show calmness and foresight. The Russian Government has not made any undue proposal. The writer has all along said that Russians have not encroached upon the Afghan frontier. Panjdeh is not included in the Afghan territory. The places which were formerly in the possession of the Turkomans have now come under the possession of Russia who has conquered them. The frontier claimed by Russia not only includes Panjdeh, but comes within 15 miles of Herat. The Afghans did not formerly say anything; but they are now saying that their frontier reaches as far as Sarakhs. Mr. Gladstone forbade the Russians to cross this imaginary boundary of the Afghans; but Russia has naturally refused to comply with that unreasonable demand. Many vain Englishmen are censuring Mr. Gladstone, because the Russians have not



withdrawn at the bidding of the English Government. These men wish to hastily drive the Russians beyond Sarakhs; but it is not easy to do so. Those only who are foolish are censuring Mr. Gladstone.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,  
March 23rd, 1885.

25. The same paper says that the purpose of the Rawul Pindee Durbar will be fulfilled if Russia becomes pacified upon seeing the strength of the English and the

loyalty of Indians. There can be no doubt that the Amir will receive honour at the hands of Lord Dufferin. Various sorts of arms will be presented to him. The writer earnestly urges that the proposal to station a British Resident or Agent in Cabul should not even be hinted at. If that is done, all efforts for gaining over the Amir will come to nothing. If it is sought to keep a British Resident in Cabul, the Afghans and the Amir alike will become hostile to the English.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

26. The same paper says that it is foolish to think that Turkey or Italy will take any step without the approval of England. The help of the Porte and

Italy is desirable. The writer has shown in the last issue that the easiest route to Khartoum is that from Massowah and through Cassala. It would have been very well if the English troops had marched through that route together with the Italian troops. England's object will be gained if the Turkish troops march with the English troops from Suakim through the desert. England should accept the offer of help from Italy and Turkey if such offers have really been made.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

27. The same paper says that the *Civil and Military Gazette* has said that the Maharajah of Cashmere frequently corresponds with the Amir, and that he has

kept some spies and correspondents in Peshawur for learning the news from Cabul. Anglo-Indians consider Cabul and Cashmere hostile States and recommend their annexation. They say that Russia will enter India through these States. Is it wise, asks the writer, to annex these States if there is any ground for the above apprehension?

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

28. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 23rd March, remarks that, as both England and Russia are now bidding for the Amir's friendship with offers of pecuniary

help and otherwise, it would be something like a triumph on the part of England if she can induce the Amir to come to India, for then she will be able to say that she has got the Amir in her grasp which Russia has not. The writer does not expect any better result to follow from the proposed durbar. He is also of opinion that the policy of securing the friendship of the Amir with money and other things is after all a very unsound one. No friendship can be sincere which is gained by appealing to selfish motives. If Russia pays more money, &c., to the Amir, the Amir will go over to Russia. The Amir's friendship with the British Government would have been of a firm and lasting nature if he had been impelled to seek it by his own patriotic motives and by his love for his kingdom and his own independence; but the British Government is only fostering ignoble feelings in his mind by bribing him with money and showing undue concern for him. The writer also observes that, if the money and efforts which are being devoted by the British Government to securing the friendship of the Amir had been employed to make the people of India stronger and more loyal to English rule, then the Amir in all likelihood would have remained attached to England, and Russia would not have dared to advance so far as she has.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.

29. The same paper remarks that Russia will not probably all of a sudden go to war against England, and there is now some prospect of peace. Anglo-Indians are, however, sorry at this; they are eager to see England fight



with Russia, probably for the reason that in the case of such a war their ascendancy in this country will increase. The best course for England now is doubtless to seek to come to an amicable settlement with Russia, having a due regard to her interests and prestige. The chances of war are very uncertain, the more so as England will have to deal with the Amir, whose friendship may at any moment come to an end, and with the barbarous and vacillating Afghans who may at any moment go over to Russia. There is also another consideration, namely that, in the event of a war, Russia is likely to receive the assistance of Germany and Austria.

30. The same paper remarks that the fact that England has availed herself of the aid of Turkey and Italy in suppressing the Mahdi shows the power of that man if not also the weakness of England.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

31. The same paper refers to the remark made by the *Englishman* newspaper that the conduct of Mr. Gladstone's Ministry in regard to Russia in Central Asia has brought discredit upon the British nation. The *Englishman*, observes the Editor, was perhaps beside itself with rage when it made that remark, for it apparently forgot that the making of remarks like these, which go to show the weakness of England, is calculated to produce injurious consequences in this country which is held by the sword.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.

32. The same paper remarks that Anglo-Indians perhaps desire a war with Russia, expecting that, in the case of such a war, their power will greatly increase in this country. But if the Premier now directs that on the breaking out of a war with Russia, Anglo-Indians shall have first to take the field, they will no longer probably talk of war.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.

33. The *Surabhi*, of the 24th March, says that Rs. 17,37,50,000 will be spent upon the Soudan war. The waste of so much money upon an unnecessary war is blameworthy and lamentable.

SURABHI,  
March 24th, 1885.

34. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th March, prays that there may be peace between England and Russia, and that Sir Peter Lumsden may return in safety. The English cannot expect to have active support from the Afghans, whose ancestors they have slain in previous wars. The writer does not think it advisable for the English to engage in a war with Russia on the North-Western frontier of Afghanistan, when the Afghans are not friendly to them.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
March 24th, 1885.

35. The same paper notices that the *Pioneer* is loud in its praise of the loyalty of the native princes who have come forward to help the English with their troops. Russia is mistaken if she counts on the sympathy of these princes. The writer is glad that even the *Pioneer* understands that the native princes are loyal to the English.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

36. The same paper hears that a rumour is current in the Punjab that the Maharajah of Cashmere is to be pensioned off on the score of his being in secret communication with Russia. The writer thinks that the rumour has no foundation in fact, and that the enemies of Cashmere have given currency to it.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

37. The *Bangabasi*, of the 27th March, is startled at the announcement made in the *Englishman* that the English will occupy Afghanistan shortly after the Durbar at Pindee, and that Abdur Rahman will be brought as a prisoner to

BANGABASI,  
March 27th, 1885.



**Moochi Khola.** The writer hopes that the English will never be guilty of such treachery. Lord Dufferin will not, it is to be hoped, imprison a prince after inviting him into his own territories.

There is no possibility of an amicable settlement between Russia and England. Russia has taken forcible possession of certain districts which belonged undoubtedly to the Amir. Russia will not give up these districts at the remonstrance of the English. She has said she will not. So war has become inevitable, unless the English fall at the feet of Russians and allow them to occupy the disputed territory.

India has not only to pay the enormous salary of Sir Peter Lumsden, the large expenses of the Boundary Commission, but it has also to pay the cost of buying off the tribes of Central Asia. How long poor India will have to bear this burden is not known.

This is not the first time that Russophobia has crept into the minds of Englishmen. It is of very long standing. As Russia is occupying country after country, and advancing steadily towards India, the fear of Russia is gaining possession of the English mind. The English have been trying for a long time to ward off the danger, but they have not yet succeeded in devising one single method for checking Russian advance. Their greatest mistake was the last Afghan war. The Afghans should have been made friends, but the English did nothing to gain their confidence or their friendship. The only man who could have helped the English effectually was Yakub Khan, who had unbounded influence over the Afghans. But he was dethroned, and made a prisoner. Their second great mistake was the raising of Abdur Rahman to power. He has not the power to allow a company of English soldiers to pass through his kingdom; and such is the man through whose alliance the English want to curb the power of haughty Russia. The writer considers the subsidy paid to the Amir to be a sheer waste. He has received the assistance of the English, it is true, but he has received the assistance of Russia too. The time of his trial is come. Even admitting that the Amir is friendly to England, will the Afghans be friendly? He may wish to help the English, but he has no power. Yakub could have helped the English, who had brought him out of prison and placed him on the throne. He had the wish, and he had the power too.

#### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

**SULABH SAMACHAR,**  
March 14th, 1885.

38. The *Sulabh Samáchar*, of the 14th March, reports that, owing to the scarcity of water, a serious outbreak of cholera of a virulent type has occurred in several villages in the sub-divisions of Ranaghat and Bongong. 60 to 70 persons have lost their lives in the course of a week. People are getting no help either from Government or from the zemindars. Will not the Lieutenant-Governor institute an enquiry in to the matter?

**HINDU RANJIKÁ,**  
March 18th, 1885.

39. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 18th March, appeals to the charitable public and asks it to come forward with large subscriptions to save the lives of those who are suffering from the effects of the scarcity.

**HINDU RANJIKÁ.**

40. The same paper is alarmed at the attitude of Lord Dufferin, who has passed the Tenancy Bill, in spite of remonstrances from every section of the community. It will not now condemn his policy, but it expects no good to flow from it if it ignores public opinion.

**SAHACHAR,**  
March 18th, 1885.

41. The *Sahachar*, of the 18th March, says that Lord Ripon has rightly described the mission of England in India in the following words:—"But I do not profess to believe that the promotion of material progress—the material



well-being of the people—is the first or the only duty of the English administration in India. England has higher duties to perform in that country than anything which concerns purely material interests. It is our duty to impart to the Indian people our civilization and our knowledge, Not material well-being and peace, but moral and intellectual advancement and the soaring higher and higher of aspirations constitute the real happiness and the progress of a nation. Lord Ripon has laid the foundation of such a policy. It remains to be seen what superstructure Lord Dufferin will rear upon that foundation.

42. The same paper says that an undue importance has been attached to property in fixing the qualifications of the members of the Self-Government Boards and the electors. The writer does not think that

The property qualification for the members of the Self-Government Boards.

the qualification of the members as regards property should be made higher than that of the electors. He cannot understand why the rule that has been introduced in municipalities cannot be introduced into the Local and District Boards. The writer has no objection to the property qualification fixed for the electors ; but he considers the property qualification fixed for the members to be too high.

43. The same paper says that the budget of this year shews the wrong which Lord Ripon's Government has done by abolishing the import duties. England herself has not ceased to levy import duties

The import duties and the budget of this year.

upon Indian goods. She levies such a high duty upon Indian gold and silver articles, and upon Dacca muslin, &c., that the import of those articles has been stopped. A duty of 30 per cent. is also levied upon Indian tea and coffee. Lord Ripon abolished the import duties against the unanimous opinion of Anglo-Indians and natives, just as Lord Dufferin has passed the Rent Bill against the unanimous opinion of the whole country at the direction of the Home Government. Both natives and Anglo-Indians have protested against the administration of India in a party spirit. But there is no hope that this vicious system will soon come to an end. The present budget shows that this time, too, it has been prepared according to the directions of the Home Government. The writer cannot understand why the accounts are kept in pounds and shillings. Government should do well to remember that there will be greater loss from exchange this year.

44. The same paper says that the Delimitation Commission will ruin Indians. Indians will have to defray the expenses of the Commission, which amount to 12 lakhs per month. Even if there is no

The expenses of the Delimitation Commission.

war, Indians will have to spend 144 lakhs if the Commission remains one year. The Chief of the Commission, Sir Peter Lumsden, is drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 42,000. A great agitation would be made if England had to defray these expenses.

45. The same paper says that it is rumoured that Lord Dufferin has expressed grave displeasure at Sir Rivers Thompson's undue partiality towards Mr. Beadon. The writer will be very glad if this rumour should be found to be true. It has become indispensable that Sir Rivers Thompson should be taught a lesson.

Lord Dufferin and the letting off of Mr. Beadon.

Experienced Sub-Judges and Deputy Magistrates on the Commission for enquiring about the prospects of the amlah.

46. The same paper says that one or two experienced Sub-Judges and Deputy Magistrates should be appointed members of the Commission for enquiring about the prospects

SAHACHAR,  
March 18th, 1884.

SAHACHAR.

SAHACHAR.

SAHACHAR.

SAHACHAR.



BAHACHAR,  
March 18th, 1885.

47. The same paper says that the Rent Act will benefit the zemindars more than the ryots. Many provisions for the benefit of the ryots have been left out for the satisfaction of the zemindars. No provisions have been made for fair rent, free sale, and fixity of tenure, for which the friends of the ryots clamoured. None of the privileges of the zemindars have been taken away. Still they are clamouring. The writer is sorry that Government has passed the law against the opinion of the whole country. But he is sorry not for the zemindars but for the ryots.

The Tenancy Act.

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH,  
March 19th, 1885.

48. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 19th March, is glad to notice that the postal authorities are trying to offer facilities for depositing revenue in collectorates by means of postal money-orders by increasing the size of the coupons attached thereto. This arrangement will increase the income of the State, and at the same time save much of the trouble and annoyance of the small talukdars.

Depositing revenue in collectorates.

RUNGPORE DIK  
PRAKASH.

49. The Editor of the same paper asks his educated countrymen to lay aside a portion of their expenses in marriages and other ceremonies for the purpose of raising a fund for relieving famines and other providential visitations.

A famine fund.

SANSODHINI,  
March 19th, 1885.

50. The *Sansodhini*, of the 19th March, complains that in remitting the pay of the circle pundits by money-orders, the fee for the orders is deducted from the amount, and asks the authorities either to pay the fee from the State or to send them their bills duly countersigned, so that they may get them cashed from the treasury. Again they do not get their small pay punctually.

The pay of circle pundits.

SANSODHINI.

51. The same paper complains that a Mahomedan was attacked and severely mauled by a tiger at a small distance from Chittagong. Though the whole population has been disarmed, a man attacked the animal with his *dao*. He, too, was severely mauled. Both persons are lying in the hospital.

A man killed by a tiger.

SANSODHINI.

52. The same paper complains that the lodgings of Prasanna Baboo, the local Deputy Magistrate, and a large number of houses, were burnt down on the 24th Falgun. Mr. Lyall, the Commissioner, did everything in his power to put down the fire. The writer asks the authorities to find out the incendiaries. He has always advised them since the burning of the Meer Ahaya school to trace these wicked men, and to have them punished, otherwise they will cause greater mischief and incendiarism will ever be on the increase.

Incendiarism at Chittagong.

SANSODHINI.

53. The same paper notices that the High Court has permitted people to deposit certain costs in civil suits by means of money-orders. If this rule be extended to the deposits in collectorates, people will be greatly benefited and corruption will greatly diminish.

Deposit of costs by money-order.

SANSODHINI.

54. The same paper complains that the steps leading to the temple of Chandra Shekhar have been broken in certain places, that there are no steps leading to the temple of Birupaksha, that water is supplied to the shrine of Shambhunath by means of pipes made of betel-nut trees, which often give way to the great inconvenience of pilgrims; that there are no windows in the temple of Shambhu Nath, which is therefore very dark; that the steps leading to the temple of Shambhu Nath are in a very wretched condition, and that the priests do not keep good tanks. The writer thinks that the Magistrate can easily remove these inconveniences. There is a surplus of Rs. 3,000 in the fund raised by levying tolls every year on pilgrims.

Certain improvements with regard to the Sita Kunda.



55. The same paper condemns the idea of establishing a Native Defence Association in imitation of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association. It will

Political Associations.

simply foster race atagonism and do great mischief. In order to cope with a class Association a catholic and liberal Association should be established.

56. The *Prátikar*, of the 20th March, says that the Tenancy Bill has been passed into law by the Imperial Legislative Council in spite of the remonstrances of both

The Tenancy Act.

the zemindars and the ryots. Many meetings were held and many telegrams were addressed to the Viceroy representing that if that Bill were passed into law it would ruin all classes of men interested in land, but to no effect. Though the zemindars are complaining that they have received no advantage by the Act, still the writer thinks that they are the gainers, and that the ryots have received no advantage. The writer is not opposed to the interests of the zemindars, but the ryot should not be made entirely dependent on them. The ryots of Bengal are poor, because the zemindars have absolute power over them. If the zemindar looks to the interests of the ryot and tries to improve his condition, he can get four times as much as he now gets. Money cannot be got from a poor man on the point of starvation without using cudgels. The zemindar oppresses the ryot and thereby creates ill-feeling in him, otherwise they would stand in the relation of father and son. Successive bad harvests have ruined Bengal. The ryots are in great distress. What is the cause of the miseries of the ryots? Bad harvests. What produces bad harvests? Want of rains. Cannot that want be supplied? Yes, it can be done, but there is no capital sufficient for the purpose. The Bengal tenant is exceedingly poor. He cultivates his lauds with borrowed money, and the greater part of the produce of his fields goes to pay up his debts. In the case of a failure of crops the cultivator being unable to pay his debts and his rent becomes a beggar. Such is the condition of the ryots in Bengal. Do the zemindars ever think of ameliorating their condition? The writer condemns the passing of the Tenancy Act in spite of the protests made by both zemindars and ryots.

57. The same paper is glad to notice that the Government of India has issued a resolution expressing its displeasure with the Government of Bengal for not punishing Mr. Beadon for the offences that were proved against him.

The Presidency Jail Resolution.

58. The same paper says that the wealth of India is being drained away every day. The English are destroying the trades and occupations of natives. English merchants are carrying the wealth produced by the labours of the natives to their own country. Government is indifferent to the terrible sufferings of the people from the effects of famine. It is the duty of the natives to concert measures for relieving the distress. Subscriptions can be raised for this purpose in a place like Berhampore. Rai Dhanapat and Rai Luchmipat Bahadurs have opened an annachhatra at Nalhati, where they supply 100 men with food. The writer would be glad to find Maharani Swarnamayi opening an annachhatra on a large scale.

The famine.

59. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 20th March, says that Sir Rivers Thompson found Mr. Beadon not guilty of the charges of cruelty brought against him and abused the

Cruelties in the Presidency Jail.

Statesman. But the verdict of the public was different. The writer was of opinion that Sir Rivers did not understand the meaning of the report of the Jail Commission. He now hears that Lord Dufferin has come to the conclusion that the resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor is not consistent with the report of the Commission, and so he has expressed his displeasure with the Government of Bengal. The writer remarks that through his weakness Sir Rivers is doing a great mischief to the province under his charge.

SANSODHINI,  
March 19th, 1885.

PRATIKAR,  
March 20th, 1885.

PRATIKAR.

PRATIKAR.

ARYA DARPAN.  
March 20th, 1885.



PRAJABANDHU,  
March 20th, 1885.

60. The *Prajābandhu*, of the 20th March, says that mutual confidence begets love, respect and affection. If the English do not place their confidence in

The Natives and the English.

natives they cannot expect sincere loyalty from them. The imposition of the Arms Act shows that the English have no confidence in the natives. Russia is not likely to take the field with a small number of men. The number of English troops is sure to be smaller than that of Russian soldiers. The English have 64,000 European and 1,25,000 native troops. Including the armies of Native Princes the number of fighting men in India is about four lakhs; but this is not quite enough for overcoming the danger that threatens. The people of India in one voice demand the privilege of using arms. There is no harm in granting this privilege. The natives may have strong sympathies with the English, but they cannot show their sympathy effectually without arms. If 500 millions of hands are furnished with arms, foreign enemies will not have the power to invade India.

The English should no longer conceal the real state of things. Bengalis will never use their arms against the English, nor would the people of India do them any harm. Then why should the English treat the natives like domestic animals? The English power is not likely to last to eternity. A day will come, and in the estimation of the English the day is near at hand, when they will have to leave the shores of India with a sigh. They are fools if they think that such a day will not come; but if they think that such a contingency is possible, why do they leave a quiet people inferior to none in the world in the arts of civilization in a perfectly helpless condition? When a foreign invading army will move eastward even armed resistance of the people will be useless. Under such circumstances the possession of arms will give them courage. The writer implores the English not to ruin the feeble Bengali. Bengalis should be enlisted either in the army or in the volunteers corps, and the Arms Act should be repealed. The British people should remember the wretched condition to which they were reduced when the Romans left their shores. Will not the natives be reduced to a similar condition when the English go away? Bengalis who are accompanying the English soldiers to the battle field, and in certain cases have also borne arms, can be good soldiers if properly trained up. If the English want to test the courage of the Bengali they have simply to put forth an advertisement and ten well educated natives will apply the next day for appointments in the Military Service. The writer thinks that if the Arms Act passed by Lord Lytton, who disgraced the Viceregal office, be abolished, that if the natives be granted the privilege of enrolling themselves as volunteers, that if standard of age in the the Civil Service be raised to 25 years, and the Civil Service examinations be held both in England and in India, that if a system of representation be introduced in the selection of members of Legislative Councils, and the functions of the executive be separated from those of the judicial officers, and that if a system of competitive examination be introduced in the distribution of State patronage, the entire population of India will dance with joy and try their best to save their country. But if India be governed in the interests of the English and Englishmen get no punishment for causing the rupture of the spleen of natives, then the people will become indifferent as to whether the English or Russians are their rulers. The only way in which the English can make themselves secure in India is by reforming the internal administration of the country. It has been shown times out of number that the natives are loyal. If India can be fortified with a rampart of good administration, tens of millions of Russian soldiers will not be able to enter India.

SULABH SAMACHAR,  
March 21st, 1885.

61. The *Sulabh Samāchār*, of the 21st March, says that the zemindars used to enhance the rents unjustly and to oppress their ryots. The new Act supplies no remedy.

The Bengal Tenancy Act.



The zemindars found it difficult to realize rent, and the Act has done nothing to help them. Many are of opinion that the new Act will create bad feelings between zemindars and ryots, and that it will increase litigation. The writer does not understand why Lord Dufferin passed the Act so hastily. Government was determined to put down the zemindars, but it has not done any good to the ryots. The profession of doing good to the ryots is a hoax, and so it has not been given effect to.

62. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 21st March, says that from the budget it appears that a new tax will be imposed next year. Sir Auckland Colvin is very anxious

The import duties.

owing to the unsatisfactory state of the finances. But if the import duties had not been abolished, there would have been no cause for such anxiety. If any tax is to be imposed, Lord Dufferin should not impose a direct tax, but should reimpose the import duties, which are an indirect tax.

63. The same paper endorses the opinion of the military correspondent of the *Statesman*, namely, that the native troops should not be discouraged and that na-

Natives and high offices in the army.

tives should be appointed to high offices in the army. Government will win the heart of natives if it trusts them in this manner.

64. The *Grámvartá Prakáshiká* of the 21st March, says that a scarcity of water is severely felt in the villages round Kumarkhali. The condition of these villages

Scarcity of water in Kumarkhali.

is pitiable. Unless Municipalities and Road Cess Committees can remove the scarcity of water they will not succeed in improving public health.

65. The same paper is alarmed at the intelligence that famine has assumed gigantic proportions in the districts of Burdwan, Beerbhoom and Bankoora, and that

The famine in Bengal.

the state of things will be worse in April and May next.

66. The same paper is glad to notice the establishment of the Nuddea District Association, and wishes that it may be permanent and successful. The writer

The Nuddea District Association.

hopes that the people of Nuddea will try their best to improve the condition of the Association. Life in Bengal has been made miserable by the oppression practised by Englishmen. The Defence Association is doing its best to remove all obstacles from the path of Europeans oppressing natives. The English are the rulers of India, and so they are respected by all. There is very little possibility of their being oppressed in this country, but there is, on the contrary, every probability of their oppressing the natives. Under such circumstances the establishment of Associations like the present one has become a necessity. The people are labouring under various oppressions under cover of the beneficent English rule. Passengers in the lower classes of railway trains are shut up in Black Holes and greatly oppressed by the railway authorities. Slavery in a disguised form is being carried on under cover of the law of immigration. People do not venture to complain when oppressed by indigo-planters. The cruelties practised in the jails are well known. Rupturing the spleens of natives has become something like an epidemic disease with Englishmen. The establishment of Associations on the model of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association with a view to remove these oppressions has become absolutely necessary.

67. The *Sanjivani*, of the 21st March, thanks Sir Rivers Thompson for directing the officers in Beerbhoom and

Sir Rivers Thompson and Baboo Dwarka Nath Ganguli.

Burdwan to afford every facility to Baboo Dwarka Nath Ganguli, the Assistant Secretary of the Indian Association, in concerting measures of relief in those districts.

68. The same paper is glad to learn from the *Surabhi* that the Government of India has disapproved of the resolution of Sir Rivers Thompson on the subject of

The Jail Resolution of Sir Rivers Thompson.

UCHIT VAKTA,  
March 21st, 1885.

UCHIT VAKTA.

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA,  
March 21st, 1885.

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA.

GRAMVARTA  
PRAKASHIKA.

SANJIVANI,  
March 21st, 1885.

SANJIVANI.



the cruelties practised in the Presidency Jail. The writer is glad to find that Lord Dufferin has the courage to check a high officer like the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

SANJIVANI,  
March 21st, 1885.

69. The same paper notices that an old peasant has been shot down in the fields at Pánpura in the Bundelkhand by an English soldier, who was out hunting. This is no news to the writer, the killing of natives by Europeans while out hunting has become very common. The writer says that Lord Dufferin will lay the people under a great obligation if he can firmly take measures for putting a stop to killing men in this way.

Killing of natives by Europeans.

SANJIVANI.

70. The same paper thinks that all raiyats and their friends should heartily thank Sir Rivers Thompson and Mr. Reynolds for the way in which they have fought their cause. Though the Tenancy Act is not as complete as it was desired to make it, yet, when its incompleteness has been acknowledged, there is hope of future amendment. Both the zemindars and the raiyats should watch carefully the working of the Act.

The Tenancy Act.

SANJIVANI.

71. The same paper says that Government is throwing a great responsibility on the Local Self-Government Boards, but the funds placed at their disposal are very limited. The writer hopes that the authorities will attend to this matter.

The Self-Government Bill.

SANJIVANI.

72. The same paper says that the famine is assuming gigantic proportions as time rolls on. Few can help shedding tears while reading the accounts of the famine in the *Sanjiváni*. Men and women belonging to the lower classes can easily go to the annachhatras to take their meals. But those belonging to respectable families cannot do so. The annachhatras opened by Government have, indeed, done much good, but not as much as was expected. Mr. Beames has stopped the distribution of rice to the incapable. Relief is to be given only to those who can cook at the annachhatras, and so those that have not the power to cook must die. The rule has been laid down at Bara Belun to the effect that relief is to be given only to those who can work. Now Mahomedan females cannot work at any public place, and so they are to be entirely excluded. At Nasigram food cooked by Bagdis is given to Muchies, and so Muchies refuse to eat there. These obstacles prevent the Government annachhatras producing as much good effect as could otherwise expected from them. Is there no way of removing these obstacles? Government is inspired by the best of motives, but the strict orders of the mofussil officers stand in the way of Government.

What can the mere opening of annachhatras do? The blind, the lame, and the incapable cannot walk to the annachhatras; women and children cannot work as hard as men. Will not Government make some arrangements for supplying these people with food? The writer appeals to those of his countrymen who are spending large sums of money on pleasure to come forward with large subscriptions for the relief of the poor.

A special famine correspondent, writing from Burdwan, says that there are a few families of Kotals at Satgachi, none of whom have any food at home. A helpless widow, named Matu, and a blind old man, named Nabin, are in great distress.

Out of 50 families in Chota Palasan, 25 are in absolute want. Unless the cultivators are relieved this year, it will be difficult for them to cultivate lands next year.

People in Bara Palasan are in a pitiable plight. The *Bangabási* was giving relief to a good number of men here, but it has stopped it from the 5th of Falgun. At first about 140 men were relieved at the rate of three *poas* and half a seer of rice a day. Latterly the number of the relieved was reduced to 40 men, and these men have now been put to very great difficulty.



by the stopping of the relief. The *Bangobási* has spent Rs. 125 for relief in the village.

The writer is surprised to find that no arrangement has yet been made to relieve distress in the Satgachi thana. Some of the villages under this thana are in the most wretched condition possible. Mirzarpur is to the west of Bara Palasan. Some of the Mahomedan females in this village are in great distress.

There is no cultivated land in the village of Kherur.

Mandalgram is a large village. Many are in great want here. It is a pity that a village like this is deprived of Government relief. The writer saw a very novel sight here: many Brahman widows were employed in picking up cowdung in the fields. Matilal Hazra applied to Government for tuccavi advances and commenced baling out the water of his tank, but no enquiry has yet been made on his application. The rumour has it that Government is prepared to make tuccavi advances repayable in twenty years, but in many villages people do not get anything by repeated applications. Will Government give these advances for the purpose of digging tanks in June?

Those that have lands in the villages of Haladharpur, Indrapur, and Sargachhi reaped a harvest estimated at two annas of the full harvest. Many have left the villages in quest of employment. Those that are at home are in great want.

The produce at Bamune is estimated at four annas. The lands which produced this small quantity of food-grains belong to Aguris and to Mahomedans of the village.

A correspondent writing from Rampore Hât says that out of 500 bighas of arable land, only hundred bighas were cultivated this year at Karasin. The yield of the cultivated area is very scanty. There are 10 families of low caste people and 27 families of Mussulmans. Even respectable families are in want. The condition of poor people can be better imagined than described.

The yield of the fields at Chhitaspur was sufficient to keep the people alive up to this time. But distress is already being felt in the houses of the poorer classes.

The lower classes in Akhira are in great want. The able-bodied poor are ready to work, but they get no employment. But there are some in the village who are not capable of work. They cannot even get alms.

Every one in the village of Ramrampur possesses lands to the extent of 10 to 12 bighas, but the yield of paddy this year has been nil. The majority of the inhabitants belong to the lower classes and live by agriculture.

Another correspondent writing from Rampore Hât says that three persons have died at Pikepara of starvation.

Government is still deliberating as to whether this is famine. Government will help the poor in the end, but many of them will not live to enjoy the benefits of Government relief. Many charitable persons are placing funds at the disposal of the Magistrate of Beerbhoom. The writer does not know when these funds will be utilized.

73. The *Sádháraní*, of the 22nd March, says that the Lieutenant-Governor, and consequently his Secretaries,

The Self-Government Bill.

will have complete power in the appointment of the Chairmen of the District Boards. Mr. Macaulay has said that it is the intention of the Secretary of State that Government should reserve to itself that power. It is clear that this arrangement will diminish the power of the members. The Lieutenant-Governor has desired for a long time that the influence of the officials should be kept paramount in these Boards. For this reason he wished to establish a separate Board. But

SADHARANI,  
March 2nd, 1885.



as this arrangement was not approved of by the Secretary of State, and was protested against by the public, it was not made. It has also been ruled that those only who pay the road cess shall have the right of electing members of the Boards, inasmuch as these men will see that the proceeds of the cess are properly spent. The Lieutenant-Governor has determined to introduce this measure into 17 districts only. Local Boards will be established in the sub-divisions of these districts, and two-thirds of the number of members of these Boards will be elected. Mr. Macaulay thinks that those who pay an annual tax of Rs. 64, should have the right of electing members. But Mr. MacDonnell is of opinion that the right of election should be conferred upon those who pay a still higher tax. There are few men in villages who pay an annual tax of Rs. 64. If the qualification is still more raised, probably self-government will not be introduced in many places simply for want of electors possessing the above qualification.

SADHARANI,  
March 22nd, 1885.

74. The same paper says that it is not to be expected that Government will lessen its revenue by strict regulations about the sale of liquor from moral scruples. It is not to be expected that the Lieutenant-Governor, who considers that moral principles are sooner professed than acted upon, will make stringent rules about the outstill system. Consequently, nothing has been said about the outstill system in the last Administration Report, save that the Report of the Excise Commission has reached Government.

SADHARANI.

75. The same paper asks, how can Indians prosper when the money that is being squeezed out of them is being freely spent in a foreign country? In order to lessen this constant draining, a constant agitation should be carried on by Indians. Indian money is drained away in various ways. The greatest portion of the enormous salaries of the high English officials goes to England. There are also some men and troops in England whose salaries are paid out of Indian revenues. All this is pure despotism. But the English Government is not satisfied with all this. From 4 to 5 crores of rupees are charged as exchange. Sir Auckland Colvin has written this year: "It will be noted that for the first time in our financial history we have been compelled to adopt a rate of exchange not higher than 1s. 7d." Owing to this exchange rate, if India sends to England 24 Rupees she gets credit for Rs. 19 only. The annual payment of from 4 to 5 crores as exchange is a dreadful thing. The demand of such exchange by one country from another under the same sovereign is unjustifiable. The writer cannot comprehend how there can be a change in the relative value of gold and silver under the same sovereign. No person can make coins. The sovereign only makes coins and keeps the value and the size of the coins unaltered that there may be no difficulties in trade. The sovereign of every country has reserved to himself the right of making coins. But that right carries with it a responsibility. The sovereign should see that the value of a coin is everywhere the same. It is strange that the Indian Government does not do so in the case of the Indian rupee. In reply to this, Government says that though England and India are under the same sovereign, they do not belong to the same State. But when the import duties upon English goods are abolished, it is urged that both the countries are parts of the same State. This draining under the pretext of the observance of the principles of political economy should be put an end to.

SADHARANI.

76. The same paper says that the High Court has decided that the civilians cannot administer civil justice satisfactorily, and has recommended that that

Civilians as Civil Judges and District Appellate Courts.



power should be taken away from them. The Lieutenant-Governor is considering the matter. The High Court, says the writer, is the best authority on all matters connected with the administration of justice. The writer cannot understand what the Lieutenant-Governor will consider after this. The writer has been all along of opinion that the civilians do not understand the intricacies about Indian land tenures. That impression has now been confirmed by the decision of the High Court. The High Court has opposed the establishment of four district appellate courts owing to the apprehension that it will be deprived thereby of certain powers. It has said that the proposals of the Secretary of State do not coincide with its proposals and those of the Bengal Government. The matter has been referred to the Government of India. The writer hopes that justice will be done. If these appellate courts are established, people will be saved from some portion of the ruinous expenses to which they are now put when they have to appeal to the High Court.

77. The same paper says that though intermediate class tickets are issued, no carriages of that class are given in some of the trains that come to Sealdah from Baraset. Consequently, passengers holding intermediate class tickets have to travel in the third class.

SADHARANI,  
March 21st, 1885.

The native and the European quarter in municipalities.

78. The same paper says that if self-government only removes the difference between the arrangements in municipalities for Englishmen and those for natives, the country will be greatly benefited. The writer has heard a complaint from Howrah to the effect while that the European quarter of that town is well lighted and watered the native quarter does not obtain those advantages. The writer hopes that the elected Commissioners will attend to the matter.

SADHARANI.

The sufferings of the people of Bainchi.

79. A correspondent of the same paper says that if steps are not taken to prevent the ravages of malaria in Bainchi, the village will become depopulated like Ulla and Darvasini. The water of some good tanks in the village has become unfit for drinking owing to many persons bathing in them. Cannot the Magistrate put an end to the pollution of the good and drinkable water of these tanks?

SADHARANI.

Litigation in India.

80. The *Dacca Prakāsh*, of the 22nd March, says that the intricacies of the law, the passing of uncalled for legislation, and the increase in the cost of litigation are ruining the people, though Government may not be desirous of encouraging their litigious spirit. Unless a less costly mode of disposing of civil suits like the panchayet system be introduced, the ruin of the native population will be inevitable.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
March 22nd, 1885.

The Tenancy Act.

81. The *Mussulman Bandhu*, of the 23rd March, says that the Tenancy Bill was introduced in the Council with a view to produce a feeling of cordiality between zemindars and raiyats and to improve the condition of the latter. But instead of serving that purpose, the new Act will make their condition worse.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU,  
March 23rd, 1885.

The famine.

82. The same paper says that want of food reduces the people to skeletons; hunger brings them to the point of death. They become weak, nerveless and dispirited till they are relieved of the burden of their unfortunate persons. They are crying to the ruler of Bengal and saying, "Let us have something for this day, we are on the point of death." They are in the last convulsion of agony. But the hard heart of the ruler of Bengal is firm as a rock. It moves not; he does not feel for the sufferings of others. He does not like a tender heart. Let the country

MUSSALMAN BANDHU.



sink in the depths of misery, let the people be destroyed. It concerns him not. He has eyes, but he will not see. He has ears, but he will not hear. He has not a tender heart like the native; he has no sympathy for the sufferings of others. It is for this reason that the country is in great commotion, and is on the verge of destruction. If the people are all gone, whom will the English rule over and whom will they be proud of? If the ruler has no sympathy for the ruled, if he does not enquire into the cause of their cries that rend the skies, to whom are they to show their bellies and say "We have nothing to eat, we die, life will come to an end, let us have something to eat." The ruler is regarded as a divinity. He is the leader of society and is composed of divine essences. But alas! Such is the influence of time, the divine heart has turned into stone. Who is to blame? At whose door is the blame at this crisis to be laid? Who is to be held responsible for famines that keep constant company of India? The ruler of Bengal is not to blame. He touched with his feet the districts afflicted by the famine, but his eyes failed to perceive signs of scarcity; the groans of the people did not enter the ruler's ears. Nothing can be a matter of greater regret than that Government should remain indifferent at a time when people are actually dying of starvation. The *Bangabasi* is opening annachhatras, but the small help afforded by these will not do. Government should afford effectual relief. There is no time for deliberation. Unless speedily relieved, Burdwan, Beerbhoom and Bankoora will become as desolate as cremation grounds.

MUSSULMAN BANDHU,  
March 23rd, 1885.

83. The same paper says that the Mahomedans are constant well-wishers of Government. They have fought and bled for Government in various engagements, and still wicked people warn Government not to send Indian Mahomedans to the Soudan war lest they should make common cause with their co-religionists. But they will not be able to shake the confidence reposed by Government in the Mahomedans. If Lord Dufferin is questioned about the loyalty of the Mussalmans, his unhesitating reply will be that they are models of loyalty.

PRABHATI,  
March 23rd, 1885.

84. The *Prabhāti*, of the 23rd March, is not satisfied with the constitution of the Self-Government Boards. The officials will exercise immense influence over them, and they will have every power to interfere with the independence of the members. No one can be satisfied with a Bill which gives such a defective constitution to Self-Government Boards.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
March 23rd, 1885.

85. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 23rd March, complains that Government uses the revenues of India just as it pleases. The people demand reduction of expenditure, but Government never listens to them. The people have no control over the finances. Sir Auckland Colvin has pointed out many causes for apprehending a decrease of revenue. The abolition of the import duties in spite of the remonstrances of the people has entailed a great loss upon the revenue to make good which imposition of fresh taxation has become necessary. The Indian finances have none to look after them. When the Budget is presented to Parliament, a large number of the members are already out of the town. The utterances of Sir Auckland have filled the writer with great alarm. If there is a war between Russia and Afghanistan, the people of India will be ruined.

URDU GUIDE,  
March, 23rd 1885.

86. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 23rd March, says that the praise awarded by Colonel Euan Smith to a Mahomedan revenue officer and to a judicial officer of Kerowl proves that the statement that Mussulmans are not fit for responsible offices is groundless. Formerly Muhammadans were appointed as high officers under Government. The

The Mussulmans.



introduction of English as official language before the Mussulmans could learn it has led to their present decline. It is not true that owing to lethargy, Mussulmans are not making efforts for the improvement of their condition. Government should assist those who are trying to improve the condition of Mussulmans.

87. The same paper says that as the Viceroy has invited the President of the Eurasian Association, Madras, to learn about the grievances of Eurasians, he should also make himself acquainted with the grievances of Mussulmans. These grievances are set forth in a petition of the Mahammedan Association, upon which no orders have been passed. His Excellency may also learn about these grievances if he invites respectable Mussulman gentlemen.

The grievances of the Mussulmans.

88. The *Samvad Purnachandrodaya*, of the 23rd March, says that Sir Rivers Thompson is an obstinate man, that his brain is in disorder, that his heart is untrained, and that imbecility of age has come upon him. It is not likely that he will give the people a Self-Government Bill after their own heart, but they should feel themselves happy that they have got some of the privileges of Local Self-Government at least.

The Self-Government Bill.

89. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 23rd March, says that no prospect of the abolition of the license-tax has been held out in this year's budget. The import duties have been abolished for the benefit of the English merchants. Duties are not levied in England upon those Indian articles which are required by her. Thus duties are not levied upon Indian wheat because, if duties are levied upon that commodity, it will not be able to compete with American wheat in the English market. The day on which America will export rice to England, the duties upon Indian rice will be abolished. The rate of court fees is being raised higher and higher. The writer hoped that the protest made by the public and the Judges against that high rate would lead to its reduction. But provisions have not been made in the budget for the reduction of the rate of those fees, nor even has any prospect of such reduction been held out. No taxes have been abolished, nor has the prospect of the abolition of any been indicated. If a war breaks out with Russia, the income tax will surely be imposed. Some say that no taxes have been abolished owing to the apprehension that this may necessitate the imposition of the income-tax. But the writer is no longer reassured by such statements. He firmly believes that the burden of taxation will be increased if a war breaks out with Russia, and that it will remain the same if there is no such war. He has now clearly understood that the English free trade principle consists in not abolishing those duties the abolition of which may injure England. Indians will consider themselves fortunate if the English Government does not engage in a war with Russia. Sixty crores of Indian money have been spent upon the Afghan war. There is no knowing how many 60 crores will be spent if a war breaks out with Russia.

The budget.

90. The same paper says that the main charge preferred against Laluram Panday was that he had wrongfully arrested Mr. Walker for theft. The other charges against Laluram were (1) that he had trespassed into Mr. Walker's house; (2) that he had told the latter that there was a charge of theft against him, and (3) that he wanted to see whether there was any mark upon his person at the time of sending him up for trial. The Editor thought with Mr. Brett that the last three charges were but the parts of the main charge and he still thinks so. The people will continue to think so even if a thousand Judges like Mr. Justice Tottenham express the contrary opinion. Mr. Justice Chunder Madhub Ghose has said in his decision: "The view taken by the Judge is perhaps correct as regards

Laluram Panday's case.

URDU GUIDE  
March 23rd, 1885.

SAMVAD  
PURNACHANDRODAYA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,  
March 23rd, 1885.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.



two of the offences." But Mr. Justice Tottenham has not taken that natural view of the case. But Mr. Justice Ghose agrees with Mr. Brett on almost all the points.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,  
March 23rd, 1885

91. The same paper says that the Self-Government Bill should not be hurriedly passed into law like the Rent Bill. The Self-Government Bill is not the

The Self-Government Bill.

amendment of an old Act. It is true that the Lieutenant-Governor has not the freedom of making the Bill such as he may think best. But he can give a larger measure of self-government to the people without disobeying the directions of the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State directed that District Boards should be formed instead of Central Boards, and that at first the District Magistrates should be appointed Chairmen of these Boards. The writer asks Mr. Macaulay, whose views are so liberal, whether the number of elected members of such Boards cannot be increased without disobeying the orders of the Secretary of State. The writer thinks that two-thirds of the whole number of the members of these Boards should be elected. What good will be obtained from the numerical superiority of elected members in the Local Board when the influence of official members will be greater in the District Board which will supervise its actions? For this reason the writer recommends that two-thirds of the number of members of the Boards of the districts named in the schedule to the Bill be elected by the people, and that the power of electing the Chairman be conferred upon at least one or two of these Boards. Government is not placing at the disposal of the Local Boards sums proportionate to the work which they will have to do. The system of self-government cannot go on in this manner. Government should place sufficient money for the works that will have to be done at the disposal of the Boards. Government is now gradually spending lesser and lesser money upon roads and dispensaries. If under the pretext of introducing self-government, Government ceases to spend money upon these things altogether, all improvements will be at an end. The writer has no objection to the Board's being entrusted with works. He only wants that sufficient money should be placed at their disposal. If the Boards have to impose new taxes for doing the work with which they are entrusted, they will become very unpopular. The authorities should remember that such unpopularity will be a great obstacle in the way of the success of self-government. Government should place the greatest portion of the proceeds of every tax but land revenue at the disposal of these Boards.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

92. The same paper says that if in 1863 the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal did really introduce

The Planters and Act XIII of 1859.

Act XIII of 1859 in connection with the contract about the service of coolies for the benefit of the planters of Cachar, he did a very wrong thing. Everybody but a few selfish planters clearly sees that this Act is not applicable in the case of the agreement of coolies. Cachar is now under Assam. Mr. Elliot has acted like a true ruler by taking away this weapon of a law from the hands of the planters. Such an act may enrage the Britannicuses. The zemindars were similarly angry when the right of *huptum* and *punchum* was taken away from them. But the rulers cannot make all the defenceless people miserable in order that a few men may not be dissatisfied. A separate Act has been passed for the agreement of service by coolies. Attempts to oppress the coolies with the help of Act XIII of 1859 is inhuman. The planters are lowering themselves in the estimation of the public by their own faults.

NAVAVIBHAKAR

93. The same paper says that a permanent Education Committee consisting of 12 members, has been formed in

Permanent Education Committees.

the Central Provinces. When the District Boards are going to be entrusted with the work of education, such



Committee should be formed in every province. If this is done, the purpose of the Education Commission will be fulfilled.

94. The same paper says that though cries of distress are being heard in Burdwan, Beerbhoom, Bankoora, Moorshedabad—indeed in every part of the country—the officials persist in saying that the distress is not great, and can be easily put an end to. The writer knows that it can be easily put an end to, but it is not being put an end to. Government has also itself admitted that it can only open relief works, but it cannot bestow alms. How, then, can it put an end to the distress? The Magistrate of Burdwan is begging money. Still Government says that the distress is not great, and will be put an end to by the opening of relief works. The Government, which argues in this way, may consider the descriptions of the distress in newspapers over-coloured. But the newspapers seek to awake the slumbering Government.

NAVAVISHAKAR,  
March 23rd, 1885.

95. The same paper is glad that Baboos Surya Koomar Agasti and Ashutosh Gupta, who have obtained great academical distinctions, and are Premchand scholars, and were serving as Deputy Magistrates, have been admitted into the Native Civil Service.

NAVAVISHAKAR.

96. The *Samaya*, of the 23rd March, says that even the *Pioneer*, which never spoke a word in favour of the natives, has assumed a conciliatory tone. The admission of natives into the army. The writer thinks that the best means of conciliating them would be to admit them into the army. Had there been as many natives trained in war as there are educated natives, the English would have had no cause of anxiety. Had a fourth of the native population received a military training, Russia would never have ventured to covet India. If the natives are admitted into the army they will never think of rising against the English. If the English think that they will so rise some time or other, they are greatly mistaken.

SAMAYA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

97. The same paper says that there is no denying of the fact that people suffer great inconveniences while travelling by rail. A conference was held in September 1882 to consider how these might be remedied. The Eastern Bengal Railway Company sent a representative to it. He represented that the Company had done every thing in its power to throw waiting-rooms open to the public. The writer thinks that this statement was made to conceal the real state of things on the Eastern Bengal Railway. There is no place for natives to wait at, except in front of the window, where the tickets are sold. The representative of the Company stated that enough time was given for booking passengers before a train started, and that on special occasions passengers were booked in two or three different places. The writer says that even before the Puja vacation, when the crowd is great, passengers are booked as usual at one place.

SAMAYA.

There are, of course, three places for selling tickets for the different classes, but tickets for the same class are never sold in two or three places.

With regard to the accommodation of passengers, the Company's representative says that they are accommodated according to law. But even during the hottest part of the year, 12 or 14 men are crowded together in compartments which should, according to the rules, carry only eight men.

Since the assumption of the railway by Government, no attempt has been made to remove these inconveniences. But over and above these the police oppressions have become frequent. Sir Rivers Thompson is not likely to check the police. But the writer hopes that the Government of India will make better arrangements in its new Railway Law.

98. A correspondent writing to the same paper complains that the train which leaves Sealdah for Khulna is generally late in arriving at its

SAMAYA.

Complaints against the Bengal Central Railway.



destination, and that the train which leaves Khulna for Sealdah arrives at and leaves the intermediate stations long before the appointed time, to the great inconvenience of passengers. The third class benches contain seats for five men only, but sometimes 15 men are forced on such benches. The authorities have done wrong in appointing wicked men as their officers. They get 10 or 15 rupees a month. They often insult respectable men, and do not scruple to receive illegal gratification.

SOM PRAKASH,  
March 23rd, 1885.

99. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 23rd March, says that some of the questions on Bengali grammar in the last Vernacular Scholarship Examination were so difficult that it was impossible for the candidates to understand their meanings.

SOM PRAKASH.

100. The same paper is glad that Lord Dufferin has expressed grave displeasure at Sir Rivers Thompson's resolution on the cruelties in the Presidency Jail, has characterized the punishment that has been awarded to Mr. Beadon as far too lenient, and has asked the Lieutenant-Governor to consider whether that officer should be allowed to remain in his present responsible post.

SOM PRAKASH.

101. The same paper says that the passengers suffer much inconvenience owing to the want of a sufficient number of third class carriages in the train of the Bengal Central Railway which leaves Sealdah at 3-30 P.M. on Saturdays. On some occasions the train is stopped beyond the limits of the platform of the Dum-Dum station. The passengers suffer much inconvenience in alighting from and getting into the carriages. The platform of the Dum-Dum junction station should be extended.

SOM PRAKASH.

102. The same paper learns from its special famine correspondent in Beerbhoom that he found no such distress as it is stated that there is in those parts of the district in which he has travelled. But as crops have not grown this year, rice is selling at higher prices and people are experiencing some difficulty. The correspondent asked the respectable men and the cultivators of Synthia whether there was any distress. They all said that there was no distress, but could not say what would happen in future. He paid a visit to Sooree, Hetampore, Khajuri, Kirnahar, Panchtopi, Kandi, Baghdanga, Mowri, Labhpore and other villages in Beerbhoom. He did not find that any person was dying of starvation. The labourers said that the price of rice, &c., had risen owing to a bad harvest, but they were subsisting by working as labourers. It cannot be determined what will happen in future.

SOM PRAKASH.

103. The same paper says that it is a matter of regret that the Self-Government Bill has not yet become satisfactory. The writer is not satisfied with the provision that only one-half of the members of the District Boards in the districts included in Schedule III should be elected by the people. Would it not be well if it were provided that two-thirds of the whole number of members should be elected by the people? The writer would have been glad if Tipperah and Mymensingh had been included in Schedule III. The provision that the Chairman of the District Boards should be appointed by Government is not good. Government should have conferred the right of electing the Chairman of the District Boards upon the people of several districts in order to see how that system would work. The writer hopes that Government will yet listen to this prayer. He is surprised to see that no provision has been made as to the election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Union Committees. He hopes that Government will rectify the mistake. The qualifications for the membership



of the Local Board have been made very high. The payment of Rs. 5 as road cess and Rs. 20 as license-tax and a yearly income of Rs. 1,000 are qualifications that appear to be rather high. It would be well to confer the right of dismissing the Chairman upon the Boards. So much caution has been shown in the constitution of the Boards that the above right should be conferred upon them. According to arrangements made by the Bill, the Chairman can be dismissed by Government when it pleases, or when the Board repeatedly complains against him. The District Boards have been entrusted with the superintendence of and the making of arrangements about the cattle-pounds, education, dispensaries, and public works. But the Lieutenant-Governor will be able to give any other power to these Boards at his discretion. So much power should not have been given to the Lieutenant-Governor.

SOM PRAKASH,  
March 23rd, 1885.

104. Another correspondent of the same paper writing from Panchtopi says that crops have not grown in that part, and that the people are suffering from distress. The poor are suffering very much, as they cannot obtain loans of grain from the mahajans who have not got sufficient stores this year.

Distress in Panchtopi.

105. The travelling correspondent of the same paper says that Government will do a great service to Orissa if it forms councils to help the Rajahs not only of Khandapara but of all Gurjat in the work of administration. Government should also see that the vast incomes from the maths of Pooree are not wasted upon pleasures by the mohuntas. When persons granted those lands, they framed their estimates of expenditure with reference to the income then derived from those lands. But the income from those lands has become larger. The mohuntas are shamefully squandering this surplus income. The correspondent recommends that this surplus income should be spent for religious purposes. The shrine of Jugunnath should be repaired, and the Sanskrit School of the Rajah of Balarampore should be improved out of this money. The waste of the money by the mohuntas upon their pleasures and litigation should be prevented.

SOM PRAKASH.

The Rajahs and Mohuntas of Orissa.

106. The *Patáká*, of the 28rd March, is of opinion that the Union Committees should be made the foundations upon which to build the Local and District Boards (i.e.) the members of the Local Boards should be elected by the Union Committees and those of the District Boards by the Local Boards. If this had been done, the members of all these assemblies would have been true representatives of the people. Government should not in all cases appoint the Magistrate as Chairman of the District Board. The Board's independence would have been more firm if the right of electing and dismissing the Chairman had been conferred upon it. There is hope that many necessary amendments will be made within the fifteen days after which the Bill is to be passed.

PATAKA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

The Self-Government Bill.

107. The same paper says that Mr. Buck has recommended that more railway lines should be opened, and that more canals should be made and wells sunk. There can be no doubt that the transport of grain to famine-afflicted places will be facilitated by the construction of railways. But it has been proved that the fertility of lands is destroyed by a kind of deposit left by canal water when fields are irrigated with it. The writer recommends that arrangements should be made for the irrigation of lands with the water of wells and tanks.

PATAKA.

Railways and irrigation.

108. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 23rd March, contains an article on the Local Self-Government Bill, from which we extract the following observations:—There are two features of the Local Self-Government Bill which

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

The Local Self-Government Bill.



are exceedingly important, namely, the constitution of the Self-Government Boards and the funds to be placed at their disposal. Inattention to these points will defeat the purpose for which the authorities are about to grant local self-government to the people of this country. Local Boards will be established, and the elective system introduced in 17 districts of Bengal. In the remaining 29 districts, there will be only District Boards, the members of which will not be elected. These Boards will be very much like the existing Road Cess Committees. The authorities have repeatedly admitted that, not being allowed to act with sufficient independence, the members of these and similar Committees do not evince much interest in their work. Consequently, how could better work be expected of the members of the proposed District Boards which would be formed on the principle of those Committees? The Road Cess Committees have comparatively little work in their hands. It is, on the other hand, proposed to entrust onerous and multifarious duties to the District Boards. If therefore the members of these Boards should show any lack of interest in their work, the path of future improvement of the country would be filled with obstacles. The Editor has, in a previous issue, made the remark that in districts where the municipalities have been granted the benefit of the elective system, the same benefit should be conferred upon District Boards also. In his speech in the Legislative Council, the Hon'ble Mr. Macaulay also referred to the success which had attended the introduction of the elective system into the municipalities. It is not easy to see why the sentiments expressed by the Hon'ble Member have not been given effect to. It is to be hoped that he will endeavour to see the elective system introduced into the great majority of the District Boards. Considering that either the Magistrate or some other Government official will become the Chairman of the District Board, and that the members will not be competent to act against his wishes, there is no reason why the benefit of the elective system should be withheld from that Board. In the 17 districts, in every sub-division of which there will be a Local Board, at least half the number of the members of the District Boards will probably be appointed by Government, and the official Chairman, with the support of these Government nominees, will be enabled to act just as he may please. Consequently, the granting of the boon of the elective system to these 17 districts will not prove of much avail. Government will thus have complete control over the District Boards, which again in their turn will exercise as complete a supervision over the Local Boards and Unions. There will not therefore be much benefit derived even from the introduction of the elective system, where that system has been introduced. Hence, it is necessary that the nature of the whole scheme should undergo a modification if it is desired to make it a success.

As to the funds to be placed at the disposal of these Boards, it appears from Mr. Macaulay's speech that, in discharging the numerous duties entrusted to them by this Bill, the Boards will have to depend almost entirely upon the proceeds of the road cess. But the income from the road cess, as Mr. Macaulay has himself pointed out, is often found inadequate for the purpose of constructing the roads in a district and keeping them in repairs, and has to be supplemented by special grants from Government. It is not therefore clear how, with funds which are inadequate even for one purpose, the new Boards should be able to do anything like justice to the various works which they would be required to take in hand. The road cess funds will not be sufficient for their requirements, the Boards will be compelled to leave many things undone, and their default will, under the provisions of the Bill, make them liable to abolition. The Bill, of course, declares that Government will provide the Boards with necessary funds,



but these provisions have been so enacted as to place the Boards completely at the mercy of Government.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
March 23rd, 1885.

109. Referring to the remark made by Sir Rivers Thompson that light punishment and less frequent use of flogging have had the effect of making the prisoners in the jails of Bengal more well behaved and more attentive to their work, and of lessening the mortality among them, the same paper observes that these good results have invariably followed whenever the authorities have mitigated the rigors of jail discipline. Government is indeed anxious to see a diminution of mortality among the prisoners, but to gain this end it acts in such a manner that its intention would appear to be to lessen that mortality without mitigating the rigors of jail administration. It seems to be opposed to the idea of giving sufficient food to the prisoners, and fears that if they get sufficient food they may mutiny. If the authorities were really desirous of preventing excessive mortality among the prisoners, they would at once remove its true cause, namely, the rigorous system of jail discipline.

Mortality in the jails.

110. The same paper says that Laluram Panday's acquittal saves Bengalis from a serious evil. If he had been punished, no police officer would have at any time ventured to report against a European offender. In that case the oppressions of such Anglo-Indians as are of an oppressive nature would have frightfully increased, and Bengal would have been reduced to a dreadful condition. The issue of the trial has relieved Bengalis from this anxiety. The Purneah case had shaken the confidence of Bengalis in the sense of justice of the local authorities. That confidence was restored by the right decision of the Sessions Judge of Mozufferpore, and it has been enhanced by the High Court's decision. The result of the trial will produce another benefit. Since the establishment of the Defence Association, injustice and oppression were increasing in this country, and many judicial officers had, from fear of the Association, begun to exhibit a lax sense of duty on several occasions, and many Anglo-Indians had commenced practising oppression in this country in a defiant spirit. It is probable, however, that Mr. Walker's defeat will bring the Defence Association to their senses, and that they will understand that by supporting European offenders they were making Anglo-Indians contemptible in this country. So the Association will not probably stand up henceforth in the defence of such Europeans as Mr. Walker.

Laluram Panday's case.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.

111. The same paper says that the famine is gradually assuming fearful dimensions. A telegram has been received that a boy has died of starvation at Nulhati. When Lord Lytton was mad over the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi, hundreds of thousands of people were dying of starvation in the Bombay and Madras Presidencies. This year again the state of things in different places of Bengal has become fearful indeed, and still the authorities are busy with the Rawul Pindee Durbar. They imposed the license-tax with a view to meet the costs of famine relief. The condition of Bengal is at present so deplorable that it behoves Government to help the people with money. Many persons are helping the sufferers in various ways. These should petition Government for help, which it will not be possible to deny them, considering that the license-tax was imposed on the distinct understanding that the proceeds would be expended in famine relief.

Famine.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.

112. The same paper remarks, in reference to the presidential address at the last anniversary meeting of the Defence Association, that Mr. Keswick forgot to advert to one point in his speech. He ought to have thanked Sir Rivers Thompson

The Defence Association.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.



for the assistance and sympathy which the Association, in opposing Lord Ripon and oppressing natives, had all along received from His Honour. The way in which Mr. Keswick referred to the action of the Association in the cases of Francis, Walker, and Rainey, will enable the people of Bengal clearly to understand the object which that body has always in view. But Mr. Keswick's boasts notwithstanding, natives believe that both in the case of Francis and in that of Walker, the Defence Association has been defeated.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PRATIKAR,  
March, 23rd 1885.

113. The same paper observes that Lord Dufferin's speech at the Trades' Dinner has led people to hope that His Excellency will not any longer allow Sir Rivers Thompson to act despotically.

Lord Dufferin and Sir Rivers Thompson.

SURABHI,  
March, 24th 1885.

114. The *Surabhi*, of the 24th March, says that the local Surgeon upon examining the dead body of one Ketab Sekh, a prisoner in the Pubna Jail, said that the spleen had been ruptured by a heavy blow. From the evidence given by the prisoners in that case, it appears that the prisoners have boiled gourd or occasionally boiled rice and gourd given them for breakfast. Such nasty and innutritious food is not fit for the prisoners who have to work hard. It is needless to mention that the food given to prisoners makes them weak and sickly. Prisoners are not easily sent to the hospital. The dress of the prisoners scarcely covers their nakedness. The drawers of the prisoners do not reach beyond the knee. Prisoners are sent in a batch to satisfy the call of nature. This destroys their sense of modesty. Who is responsible for such bad training? There are not paid mehters in the jails. Hindu and Mussulman prisoners are employed to serve as mehters.

The treatment of prisoners.

SURABHI.

115. The same paper says that a meeting was held in Basirhat to protest against the unjust, illiberal and anti-native principles enunciated in Sir Rivers Thompson's speech at the Trades' Dinner. There is no hope of any good being done by protests in one or two places against the speech after one month or even later. Had protests been entered against the speech in all places immediately after its delivery, there would have been hope of some good, and it would have been proved that Bengalis had learnt how to make political agitations.

The people, and Sir Rivers Thompson's speech at the Trades' Dinner.

SURABHI.

116. The same paper says that drunkenness is greatly increasing in the Province owing to the outstill system. The income from country spirituous liquor last year was greater by about four lakhs than the average annual income from that source during the five years before that. It is evident that the sale of country liquor has thus enormously increased owing to the outstill system. If that system is not soon abolished, the whole of the lower classes will become drunkards and be ruined. If drunkenness increases in this manner the Bengali race will be ruined.

The outstill system and the increase of drunkenness.

SURABHI.

117. The same paper says that it thought that after so much trouble Mr. Beadon would become cautious. But it now finds that it was mistaken in thinking so. Mr. Beadon recently detained some prisoners beyond the term of their imprisonment, and made them work hard. These men have instituted a suit against Mr. Beadon in the High Court. The writer know how the High Court, which is obedient to the Lieutenant-Governor, will decide the case of Mr. Beadon, his great favourite. But however the High Court may decide, no one except the Lieutenant-Governor doubts that Mr. Beadon is a great oppressor. The Lieutenant-Governor should remove the displeasure of the Government of India and the public by dismissing Mr. Beadon.

Mr. Beadon.



118. The same paper says that there have been failures of harvest for some years past in Jujur, near Vishnupore.

Distress in Jujur.

There is no drinkable water this year in the tanks of that place. The people do not derive any great benefit from the river Darakesvar, as it is situated at a distance of about a quarter of a mile even from the northern extremity of the village. Signs of plague have appeared in that village and adjoining villages. The Editor hopes that the Deputy Magistrate of Vishnupore will entitle himself to the gratitude of the public by helping the distressed people.

SURABHI,  
March 24th, 1885.

119. The same paper says that the successful administration of Backergunge by Baboo Romesh Chunder Dutt proves that the statement made by Government that natives are not fit for being placed in charge of a district has no weight. The people of Backergunge showed him great honour on the eve of Baboo Romesh Chunder's coming from that place.

SURABHI.

120. The same paper says that those noble-minded Englishmen who try to benefit Indians incur the displeasure of Government. Because Principal Wordsworth joins in the political agitation of natives, he has not been appointed Director of Public Instruction, Bombay, though he is the best educational officer in that Presidency.

SURABHI.

121. The same paper says that a vast sum will be spent upon the Rawul Pindie Durbar. But who can say whether the benefit will be proportionate to the expenditure?

SURABHI.

122. The same paper says that the chief defects in the original Self-Government Bill have not been removed in the amended Bill. It is contemplated to introduce self-government into only 17 districts of Bengal. Why should not the remaining districts, most of which are inhabited by educated men, obtain the right of self-government? The people of those districts are eager for the right of self-government. The Lieutenant-Governor has in a manner insulted the people of those districts. The writer hopes that they will not put up with that insult. It has been provided that the members of the District Board in those places in which Local Boards will not be established will be appointed by Government. The Magistrate again will be the Chairman of these Boards in most cases. It being so, the members of these Boards will not learn self-government, but will learn sycophancy of Magistrates. It has been provided that half of the number of members of Local Boards will be appointed by Government. This arrangement will be most unfavourable to self-government. The writer is of opinion that the question as to where Union Committees are to be established should have been left to the discretion of the local public instead of being left to the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor. The writer is also of opinion that the right of electing the Chairman of the District Boards should have been conferred upon the people. When the people have been deprived of the right of electing the Chairmen of the District Boards, they have been deprived of a very important right of self-government. The people have also been deprived of a most important right, namely, the right of dismissing the Chairmen of the Boards. When the members of the Boards have been deprived of these latter two rights, they will possess no influence. The writer cannot comprehend why the Bill has been called the Self-Government Bill, when those rights which are the soul of self-government have been withheld from the people.

SURABHI.

123. The same paper says that the Bediahs of Jessore and Nuddea formerly used to commit thefts in very distant places. But as they are now constantly

SURABHI.

The Bediahs of Jessore and Nuddea.



watched by the police they cannot go far. The photographs of most of them are in the office of the Inspector-General of Police. The Bediahs of Kulanandpore, Bhaira, Moshila, Begta, Kāsipore, Sarvananda, and Huda go to the north and north-east for committing thefts. The Bediahs of Laskhanpore, Kamarpara, Ulasi, Sanatankati, Sona Nuddeah, Deopul, and Dhuma go to the south, *i.e.*, to Calcutta, Howrah, Sulkeah, Hooghly, and other places for the purpose of theft. When these men rest or take their meals in any village, they conceal the house-breaking instruments in forests. They never bring stolen goods to their houses.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
March 24th, 1885.

124. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 24th March, says that though Mr. Coxhead is doing his best to save people from death by starvation, the number of sufferers is becoming daily so great that it will not be in his power to save them all. The cry of distress will grow more and more intense from the end of Chaitra. It will be impossible for Mr. Coxhead without help from Government to alleviate the sufferings of the people. Government should know the real state of things. Many of the middle class men have lands, houses, and other property, but still they are starving. There is no one to lend them money on the security of their property. Mr. Coxhead asked for a lakh of rupees for giving tuccavi advances to these men. But Government has not sanctioned the expenditure. The writer appeals to his countrymen to come forward to save lives, and to Lord Dufferin to take pity on the sufferings of these unfortunate person.

Scarcity of water is perhaps a much greater evil than scarcity of food in Burdwan. Government has placed Rs. 5,000 in the hands of the Road Cess Committee for the supply of good drinking water. The Committee has placed the money in the hands of the Collector, but the sum is extremely inadequate to meet the demand. Government gave Rs. 20,000 to the Committee to carry on relief works, and the Committee proposed to employ it in digging tanks; but the Chairman objected to the proposal, and it was determined that the money was to be employed in making roads. The writer gives preference to digging tanks over construction of roads. Government will certainly allow the excavation of tanks if it comes to know that there is scarcity of good drinking-water; but who will bring the matter to the notice of Government? Certainly not the Magistrate, who is opposed to the idea.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,  
March 25th, 1885.

125. The *Samvād Prabhakar*, of the 25th March, advises the Defence Association to employ the capital at its disposal for doing good to the Eurasians instead of taking up cases like that of Walker, and thereby fomenting a spirit of race antagonism. It is a disgrace to the English, a conquering nation, that they should establish an association to defend their interests. The last annual meeting of the Association shows that its members are still actuated by a strong race feeling.

SAMVAD PURNACHANDRODAYA,  
March 25th, 1885.

126. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 25th March, says that Lord Dufferin has asked Sir Rivers Thompson his opinion on the native press, and Sir Rivers has unhesitatingly pronounced all native papers as one-sided and disloyal. The writer asks his contemporaries to pardon Sir Rivers for this. Lord Dufferin has become annoyed with Sir Rivers' audacity, and sometimes administers rebuke to him. If the native papers also take up their pen against him, he will not be able to do any good in the future. Sir Rivers should retire, because he cannot do his duties properly. But if he cannot resist the temptation of remaining a Lieutenant-Governor, the native papers should remain silent as long as he fills the high position of the ruler of Bengal.



127. The *Prabhāti*, of the 26th March, asks Lord Dufferin to repeal the Arms Act and to place arms in the hands of natives who deserve every confidence of

PRABHATI,  
March 26th, 1885.

The Arms Act.

Government. They should be allowed to enter the army too.

128. The same paper says that whoever wants to make the District Magistrate the Chairman of the District Board whether he be Lord Kimberley or Sir Rivers

PRABHATI.

Magistrates in District Boards.

Thompson, is deserving of blame. The presence of the Magistrate on the Board will check the free expression of opinion by the members.

129. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 27th March, says that the Assam Government has appointed, in imitation of the Government of Bengal, an Amla

SAMVAD PURNA-  
CHANDRODAYA,  
March 27th, 1885.

The Assam Amla Commission.

Commission, but with a view to reduce the salaries of the amla. Many amla who have grown old in the service and are not guilty of misconduct have got their salaries reduced. The writer condemns this act as impolitic.

130. The *Prabhāti*, of the 27th March, complains of the mismanagement of the affairs of the Diamond Harbour Railway since the transfer of Baboo Ramgati

PRABHATI,  
March 27th, 1885.

The Diamond Harbour Railway.

Mukerji its able manager, whose excellent arrangements have all been cancelled by the new manager, his successor. The passengers have to suffer great inconveniences owing to the small number of carriages attached to the trains.

131. The special famine correspondent of the *Bangabasi*, of the 28th March, says that the Magistrate of Beerbhoom came in November last to Páthánpará to

BANGABASI,  
March 28th, 1885.

Famine in Beerbhoom.

inspect the condition of crops. But he made no enquiries in the villages. 230 men of the village, which has a population of 300 souls, are in want. Madhu, the mother of Chhavi Bhollani, has died of starvation. The writer gives a list of those who are in great need of relief. The middle class people do not fare better than people of the lower classes. They have sold their moveables, and are ready to sell their lands, but there are no purchasers. If Government is to grant relief, it should grant it without more loss of time.

Tildanga is a village situated within the Mauresvara thana of the Rampurhat sub-division. Many of the villagers have left their homes. There are 150 families with a population of 350 souls. With the exception of two families, every one is in want. People have to go without food every now and then. Even well-to-do persons are in want. People have sold up everything. They have nothing more to sell. Dwarkanath Bagdi has three female members and a child in his family. They have all grown lean and thin without proper nourishment. There are others who are half starved. The wants of middle class men are very great.

Sankpur in Bholepur Chawki has a population of 200 souls. The produce in 1289 was 12 annas, and in 1290 ten annas; this year it is next to nothing. All classes of men are in want; the cultivators are in greater want than the rest. Three persons in the village are starving.

Eighteen persons out of 600 in Panchpara in Bholepur have left the village. Nime Chowkidar has died of starvation. The writer gives a list of names of those who are in great want. The villagers informed the Magistrate of the district of their sufferings in October, but no enquiry has yet been held. A police head-constable has informed the people that sufferers among them may go to Sitarampur in quest of work. This is curious. Government will not hold enquiries about the condition of the people. It will not hear the representations of the people, but at the same time it will publish reports as if it were omniscient. The writer does not understand why the Government does not try to help the sufferers even by Tuccavi advances.



SAMVAD BAHIKÁ,  
March 5th, 1885.

132. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 5th March, points out that the police arrangements, made in connection with the celebration of the recent Dolejatra festival at Purunia, in district Balasore, were very defective. Certain crimes are alleged to have been committed there, which would not have been possible had the police force present been of sufficient strength.

Defective police arrangements.

UTKAL DĪPIKĀ,  
March 7th, 1885.

133. The *Utkal Dīpikā*, of the 7th March, is glad to find that the proceedings of the Cuttack Municipality are regularly published in the Government *Uriya Gazette*, which is published every week in that town. It is of opinion that the publication of a *Uriya* translation of the proceedings of the Committee will prove more useful to the readers than that of the original which is in English.

The Cuttack Municipality.

UTKAL DĪPIKĀ.

134. Referring to the speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, delivered at a meeting of the Bengal Legislative Council, where the Canoongoes and Putwaris Bill was the subject of discussion, the same paper makes the following remarks:—

The Orissa Canals and the Lieutenant-Governor on the Putwaris Bill.

“It is evident from the remarks of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal that His Honour labours under the impression that the zemindars and tenants of Orissa are earning good profits by the use of canal water. If this be the opinion of His Honour, we are sure that this impression will be more than confirmed by the submission of the report of the Canal Commission, most of whose members share the same view. If such be the state of things, it is hopeless to expect justice from His Honour. We have pointed out more than once that the zemindars and tenants, far from being gainers, are losers in every way. This will be evident from papers and records in the possession of Government. It is clear that the canal revenue officers want to take credit by explaining to Government that the zemindars and tenants have been greatly benefited by the use of canal water. When we see that Government also holds the same opinion, we can easily guess what will be the nature of the report which the Canal Commission will submit to Government. Government made a great mistake by giving encouragement to the originators of the canal scheme. Now the zemindars and tenants are to blame for it. What a sad thing it is!”

UTKAL DARPAN,  
March 10th, 1885.

Self-government and self-defence.

135. In an article headed “Self-government and self-defence,” the *Utkal Darpan*, of the 10th March, makes the following remarks:—

“But there is one view of self-government which we venture to urge upon the attention of Lord Dufferin. It is the right of carrying arms and defending one's own home. His Lordship has spoken of self-government in high terms, but we venture to ask whether a system of enlisting volunteers is included in such self-government. Self-government is a tree with two branches, one useful in time of peace, and another in time of war. Because the duration of peace is longer than that of war, one is apt to forget the importance of the latter. If Lord Ripon has given us local self-government, can we not expect from his successor local self-defence, which we think would be a greater principle than the one which has endeared Lord Ripon to all India? England has a large volunteer force, and does not require a single paid soldier for the defence of her shores. The volunteers are so many, and they are so brave, that England can trust to her volunteers alone for the defence of her shores. We see no reason why England should not follow the same policy in India. The natives of England are not more loyal to the English throne and English Parliament than the natives of India; and the privilege of local self-defence will be as nobly discharged by the natives of India as by the natives of England. In view of the Russian invasion of



Afghanistan, the granting of this privilege has, we think, become an absolute necessity. The great difficulty in the way is that the small section of the Anglo-Indian community, of whom we have spoken above, will think that their self-importance will be simply swept away if the leaders of the native society be entrusted with the noble duty of defending their homes and hearths. They cannot imagine what a noble instinct this is. They fondly stick to the theory of *ma-bap*, and resent the idea of the natives trusting to themselves instead of appealing to this small section for help on every occasion imaginable. We earnestly request every respectable native of Orissa, Bengal, and Behar to petition Lord Dufferin for this noble privilege. If we defend our own homes when our paid troops are engaged in Egypt, Afghanistan, and Burmah, it will mean so much less tax and so much greater comforts; and India is the last country on the face of the earth which can bear the luxury of highly paid troops, while her own children are simply sitting idle, being debarred from the privilege of defending their own country."

136. A correspondent of the *Sabaka*, of the 11th March, exhorts all his readers to submit an application to Government, having for its object the admission of the natives of India into the higher branch of the military service. He points out that it would be a disgraceful affair if 250 millions of the Indian people could not defend their country against a Russian invasion if such a contingency were probable.

SEBAKA,  
March 11th, 1885.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 28th March 1885.



